

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 00373 311450Z

44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04

OPIC-06 SP-02 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 L-02 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

STR-04 /119 W

----- 112316

R 311352Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1221

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

UNCLAS PRETORIA 0373

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD,SF

SUBJ: SOUTH AFRICAN TRADE WITH BLACK AFRICA

GENEVA FOR MTN DELEGATION

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

1. 'CAPE ARGUS' OF JANUARY 23 CARRIES STORY HEADLINED "DETENTE IS
PAYING--ALREADY" CLAIMING THAT "DETENTE" BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA
AND BLACK AFRICAN STATES IS BEARING FRUIT IN FORM OF INCREASED
TRADE. STORY SAYS ONE (UNNAMED) BLACK AFRICAN TRADE MISSION
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VISITED SA LAST YEAR AND ANOTHER IS ON WAY. ARTICLE POINTS TO

ZAMBIA, ZAIRE AND "POSSIBLY" GABON AS BLACK TRADING PARTNERS.
SAYS A LARGE SA EXPORTER " IS BELIEVED" TO MAINTAIN OFFICE IN
KINSHASA.

2. COMMENT. SOUTH AFRICAN STATISTICS SHOW REST OF AFRICA IN-
CREASING IN ABSOLUTE BUT NOT RELATIVE IMPORTANCE AS TRADING
PARTNER. FIGURES, LUMPED TOGETHER UNDER SINGLE ENTRY " AFRICA",
SHOW EXPORTS OF RAND 453.7 MILLION IN 1974 WERE 13.5 PERCENT OF TOTAL,

DOWN FROM 14.1 PERCENT IN 1973. IMPORTS OF RAND 241.5 MILLION WERE
4.9 PERCENT OF TOTAL, DOWN FROM 5.8 PERCENT.(FIGURES EXCLUDE TRADE
IN ARMS, PETROLEUM AND GOLD BULLION. IF THESE CONSIDERED,
TRADE WITH REST OF CONTINENT WOULD BE RELATIVELY EVEN LESS
IMPORTANT).
HURD

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NNN

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